

What is Claimed is:

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a single dosage formulation of metformin and glipizide, said formulation designed to control moisture so that the glipizide does not hydrolyze.

2. The pharmaceutical composition as defined in Claim 1 wherein the single dosage formulation is a tablet.

3. The pharmaceutical composition as defined in Claim 2 further including an outer protective coating or finishing layer surrounding said tablet.

4. A method for treating type 2 diabetes which comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a combination of metformin and glipizide in a single dosage form, which dosage form controls moisture so that the glipizide does not hydrolyze.

5. The method as defined in Claim 4 wherein the amount of metformin and glipizide in the combination is that employed in generally accepted medical practice for treating diabetes.

6. The method as defined in Claim 5 wherein the dosage of metformin administered is from about 250 mg to about 2500 mg/day.

7. The method as defined in Claim 6 wherein the metformin is administered in 250 mg increments.

8. The method as defined in Claim 5 wherein the dosage of glipizide administered is from about 1.25 to about 25 mg/day.

5 9. The method as defined in Claim 8 wherein the glipizide is administered in about 2.25 mg increments.

10 10. The method as defined in Claim 4 wherein the metformin is employed in a weight ratio to glipizide within the range from about 1000:1 to about 100:1.

15 11. The pharmaceutical formulation as defined in Claim 2 which includes a dosage of metformin of from about 250 to about 2500 mg/day and a dosage of glipizide from about 1.25 to about 25 mg/day.

20 12. The pharmaceutical formulation as defined in Claim 2 wherein the metformin is employed in a weight ratio to the glipizide within the range from about 1000:1 to about 100:1.

25 13. The pharmaceutical formulation as defined in Claim 2 wherein the dosage of metformin is 250 mg and the dosage of glipizide is 1.25 mg.

14. The pharmaceutical formulation as defined in Claim 2 wherein the dosage of metformin is 250 mg and the dosage of glipizide is 2.50 mg.

30 15. The pharmaceutical formulation as defined in Claim 2 wherein the dosage of metformin is 500 mg and the dosage of glipizide is 2.50 mg.

35 16. The pharmaceutical formulation as defined in Claim 2 wherein the dosage of metformin is 500 mg and the dosage of glipizide is 5.00 mg.